

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
P. O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, Colorado 80527-2400

ORIGINAL

IN THE
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

17510 U.S.P.T.O.
10/7/19703
11/20/03

Anticipated Classification of this application:

Class _____ Subclass _____

Prior application:

Examiner: R. N. Gushi
Art Unit: 2833

Commissioner For Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on 11/20/2003 and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

"Express Mail" label no. EV303488064US

Typed Name: Colleen F. Brown

Signature: REQUEST FOR A CONTINUING APPLICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

Sir:

This is a request for filing a continuing application under 37 CFR 1.53(b) a
 continuation application of:
 divisional application of:

Pending Prior ApplicationApplication No. 10/178,986 filed 06/25/2002Title SELF-LOCKING MECHANISM FOR A HOT PLUGGABLE PRINTED CIRCUIT BOARDName of applicant(s) Paul E. WESTPHALL, Robert J. HASTINGS and Daniel T. THOMPSONCopy of Application

- Enclosed is a copy of the prior application, including the drawings.
 Enclosed is a new specification, including new drawings.

Oath or Declaration

- Enclosed is a copy of the prior Declaration (37 CFR 1.63(d)).
 Enclosed is a newly executed Declaration (original or copy).

Foreign Priority - 35 USC 119

- Foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119 has been claimed in prior Application No. _____
 filed on _____ in _____
 The certified copy has been filed in prior Application No. _____
 filed _____
 A separate paper claiming direct priority to a foreign application is enclosed herewith. A certified copy of the foreign application will be provided in due course.

Rule Back - 35 USC 120

Cross Reference To Related Application(s):

This is a continuation divisional
 of copending application number 10/178,986 filed on 06/25/2002,
 which is hereby incorporated by reference herein.

ORIGINAL**Inventorship Statement**

- Delete the following named individuals as inventors in this application in accordance with 37 CFR 1.53(b) as a result of a change in the claimed subject matter:

Appointment of Associate Attorney

- Recognize as Associate Attorney or Agent _____

Registration No. _____

() authorization is hereby granted by signature below of the Attorney or Agent of record

() the Associate Attorney or Agent may not have the authority to appoint other Attorneys or Agents

Communications

(X) Address all future communications to:

Direct telephone calls to:

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Fort Collins, Colorado 80527-2400

N. Rhys Merrett
(972) 862-7428

Other Amendments

- (X) Enter the enclosed Preliminary Amendment. The filing fee is calculated on the basis of the amended claims.

Fee Calculation

- (X) The filing fee is calculated below for (X) Utility Design

CLAIMS AS FILED BY OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY				
(1) FOR	(2) NUMBER FILED	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) RATE	(5) TOTALS
TOTAL CLAIMS	9 — 20	0	X \$18	\$ 0
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	3 — 3	0	X \$86	\$ 0
ANY MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS	0		\$290	\$ 0
BASIC FEE: Design (\$340.00); Utility (\$770.00)				\$ 770
TOTAL FILING FEE				\$ 770
TOTAL CHARGES TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT				\$ 770

Charge \$ 770 to Deposit Account 08-2025. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any over payment to Deposit Account 08-2025 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25. Additionally please charge any fees to Deposit Account 08-2025 under 37 CFR 1.16 through 1.21 inclusive, and any other sections in Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations that may regulate fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul E. WESTPHALL et al.

By 
 Jonathan M. Harris
 Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)
 Reg. No. 44,144

Date: 11/20/2003

Telephone No.: (713) 238-8045